1.   (Twice Amended) A facsimile apparatus which is capable of receiving confidential image data from an origin and which is provided with a confidential reception function, comprising:

a memory which stores received confidential image data;

a notification data transmission means for transmitting notification data to said origin indicating that the received confidential image data has not been retrieved from said memory; and

a deletion means for deleting the confidential image data from the memory in response to a completion of transmission of said notification data by the notification data transmission means;

wherein said notification data is transmitted if the received confidential image data has not been retrieved from the memory within a predetermined period of time.

2.   A facsimile apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said notification data includes at least part of the confidential image data.

3.   A facsimile apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said notification data includes time information of the confidential image data transmission.

4.   A facsimile apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said notification data includes addressee information of the confidential image data.

5.   A facsimile apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said notification data includes information providing notification that the confidential image data was erased.

6.   (Twice Amended) A facsimile apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said notification data transmission means re-transmits the notification data when transmission of the notification data is not completed successfully.

7.   (Twice Amended) A facsimile apparatus as claimed in claim 6, further comprising:

a prohibiting means for prohibiting the deletion of the confidential image data when the transmission of the notification data is not completed within a predetermined number of retransmission attempts.

8.   (Twice Amended) A facsimile apparatus as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:

an identification means for identifying a transmitter telephone number of the origin based on data transmitted with the confidential image data;

wherein said memory stores the transmitter telephone number in connection with the confidential image data.

9.   (Once Amended) A facsimile apparatus as claimed in claim 8, wherein said notification data transmission means transmits the notification data using the identified telephone number.

10.   (Twice Amended) A facsimile apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said memory stores a time of receipt of the confidential image data.

11.   (Twice Amended) A facsimile apparatus provided with a confidential reception function, comprising:

a memory which stores received confidential image data;

an output means for outputting stored confidential image data from said memory in response to input of a password by an operator;

a determination means for determining whether confidential image data has been outputted by the output means within a predetermined time after reception of the confidential image data;

a notification data transmission means for transmitting notification data, indicating that confidential image data has not been outputted from the memory, when the determination means has determined that outputting of the confidential image data from the memory has not been performed;

a detection means for detecting proper completion of transmission of the notification data; and

a deletion means for deleting confidential image data from the memory in response to detection of proper completion of transmission of the transmission data by the detection means.

12.   A facsimile apparatus as claimed in claim 11, wherein said notification data includes at least a part of the confidential image data.

13.   (Twice Amended) A managing method for managing a confidential received image in a facsimile apparatus, the facsimile apparatus being provided with a confidential reception function, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving confidential image data and storing the received image data in a memory in the facsimile apparatus;

monitoring whether the stored confidential image data has been outputted within a predetermined time after reception of the confidential image data;

transmitting notification data, indicating that output has not occurred, when outputting of the confidential image data has not occurred within the predetermined time;

detecting proper completion of transmission of the notification data; and

deleting the confidential image data from the memory in response to a detection of the proper completion of transmission of the notification data.

14.   A managing method as claimed in claim 13, wherein said notification data includes at least part of the confidential image data.

15.   (Once Amended) A facsimile apparatus capable of receiving confidential image data from a source, the facsimile apparatus comprising:

a memory capable of storing received confidential image data;

a notification transmitter adapted to transmit notification data to the source;

a confirmation apparatus adapted to confirm receipt of the notification data by the source; and

a deleting apparatus adapted to delete stored confidential image data, wherein the notification transmitter transmits the notification data after a predetermined time if the confidential image data has not been retrieved, and the

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deleting apparatus deletes the confidential image data when the confirmation apparatus confirms that the source has received the notification data.